

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: New DIVISIONAL Patent Application of: )  
)  
Masahiro IWAMOTO, et al. )  
)  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
)  
PRIOR APPLICATION: 08/878,177 ) Group Art Unit: 1653  
)  
Filed: June 18, 1997 ) Examiner: Carlson, K.  
)  
For: **CELL CALCIFICATION SUPPRESSING** )  
**PROTEINS, AND GENES OF** )  
**THE PROTEINS** )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination:

Please substitute claims 1 and 5 as follows.

Claim 1. (Amended) A C-11 protein comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 2,  
said protein having cell calcification inhibitory activity.

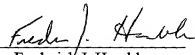
Claim 5. (Amended) A cell-calcification inhibitor comprising a c-erg protein comprising an  
amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 4, said protein having cell calcification inhibitory activity.

**Remarks**

Attached as an Appendix is a marked-up copy of original claims 1 and 5 demonstrating the changes made to these claims. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Dated: July 12, 2001

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**APPENDIX**

Deletions appear as Overstrike text surrounded by []

Additions appear as Bold-Underline text

1. A C-11 protein comprising ~~[(a) a protein selected from the group consisting of:~~  
~~(a) a protein comprising]~~ an amino acid sequence ~~[(having)]~~ of SEQ ID NO. 2 ~~[(SEQUENCE LISTING); and]~~  
~~[(b) a protein that is derived from the amino acid sequence having SEQ ID NO. 2 by deletion,~~  
~~substitution or insertion of one or more amino acids]~~, said protein having cell-calcification  
inhibitory activity.
5. A cell-calcification inhibitor comprising a c-erg protein ~~[(selected from the group~~  
~~consisting of:~~  
~~(a) a protein]~~ comprising an amino acid sequence ~~[(having)]~~ of SEQ ID NO. 4 ~~[(SEQUENCE LISTING); and]~~  
~~(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence that is derived from the amino acid sequence~~  
~~having SEQ ID NO. 4 by deletion, substitution or insertion of one or more amino acids]~~, said  
protein having cell-calcification inhibitory activity.